



County of Los Angeles **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://cao.co.la.ca.us>

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

March 23, 2004

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

ANNUAL REPORT ON FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM

In 1995, the County of Los Angeles instituted a drug and alcohol testing program for commercial drivers in accordance with guidelines mandated by the Federal Department of Transportation (DOT). The DOT requires pre-employment drug testing and random and post-accident drug and alcohol testing of employees required to maintain commercial driver's licenses, drive passenger vans with 15 or more passenger seats, or operate vehicles weighing more than 26,000 pounds. This requirement only applies to approximately 968 County employees from nine departments.

Attached are the statistics for the calendar year 2003. In 2003, 514 random drug tests were performed; only five were reported as positive. In accordance with DOT regulations, all employees with positive drug tests are removed from safety sensitive duties for an indefinite period of time and referred to a substance abuse professional. Such employees may not return to duty until clearance by the substance abuse professional and receiving a negative drug test. Thereafter, the employees are subject to a number of random follow-up tests after returning to duty.

In addition to drug tests, 118 employees received random alcohol testing; only one positive random test was reported. Per DOT regulation, employees with positive alcohol screens are also removed from safety sensitive duties for an indefinite period of time; and, are referred to a substance abuse professional and subject to random follow-up tests after returning to duty.

Each Supervisor
March 23, 2004
Page 2

In the nine years this program has been in effect, the percentage of positive random drug tests has decreased from 5.3% in 1995 positive to 1.0% in 2003. Because of this significant decline in the positive random drug test rate and the relatively small number of employees mandated to participate in the program, I plan to discontinue the practice of annual statistical reports to your Board. The Chief Administrative Office will report to the Board any significant change in statistical results or program requirements.

Please let me know if you have any questions. For additional information, your staff may contact Kathleen A. Blanchette, of my staff, at (213) 738-2187.

DEJ:RAA
CSS:KAB:mld

Attachments

DRUG TESTING

Type of Test	Number of Tests	Number of Positive Tests *	Positives By Drug Type *			
			Marijuana	Cocaine	PCP	Opiates
Pre-Employment	71	1	1	0	0	0
Random	514	5	1	1	0	0
Post Accident	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reasonable Suspicion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Return To Duty	5**	1	0	0	0	0
Employee follow-up after being returned to work.	34***	2	0	2	0	0

* Each positive test may be positive for more than one drug type.

** These are 5 tests. A single employee may have had multiple return to work tests. This number includes employees from the previous year who were off duty during part of 2003 and who were returned during 2003.

*** All employees with positive drug screens are removed from safety-sensitive duties for an indefinite period of time and referred to a substance abuse professional. They may not return to duty until they are cleared by the substance abuse professional and have a negative drug screen. They are then subject to periodic follow-up tests.

ALCOHOL TESTING

Type of Test	Number of Tests	Positives By Drug Type	
		# > 0.02 but less than 0.04	# > 0.04 **
Pre-Employment	14	0	0
Random	118	0	1
Post Accident	0	0	0
Reasonable Suspicion	1	0	0
Return To Duty	4	0	0
Employee follow-up after being returned to work.	17	0	0

* At # > 0.02 but less than 0.04 employee is removed from safety-sensitive duties for 24 hours.

** At # > 0.04 employee is removed from safety-sensitive duties for indefinite period and referred to substance abuse professional. The employee may not return to duty unless he/she has a negative alcohol test.